

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Peixuan Guo et al.
 Application No. : 10/539,241
 Filed : September 5, 2007
 For : PRNA CHIMERA

Examiner : Kimberly Chong
 Art Unit : 1635
 Docket No. : 570024.402USPC
 Date : September 17, 2009

Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (hereinafter "PTO") on March 18, 2009, please extend the period of time for response five months, to expire on September 18, 2009. Enclosed are a Petition for an Extension of Time and authorization for the requisite fee.

Applicants hereby elect with partial traverse Group 2, claims 1-8, 28 and 35-37, for examination at this time, drawn to a polyvalent multimeric complex comprising a plurality of chimeric pRNA monomers, wherein the monomer comprises a biologically active siRNA.

In response to the further requirement for election of species with regard to a heterologous component that comprises an end-labeling agent (claims 4 and 32), applicants hereby elect as the end-labeling agent SH group, for examination at this time, with the understanding that upon the allowance of a generic claim, the applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowed generic claim. Claims 1-8, 28 and 35-37 are readable upon the elected species.

In response to the further requirement for election of species with regard to a pRNA monomer that comprises a nucleotide analog or modified nucleotide (claims 8, 34, 37 and

46), applicants hereby elect as the nucleotide analog or modified nucleotide a 2'-F-2' deoxy nucleotide derivative, for examination at this time, with the understanding that upon the allowance of a generic claim, the applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowed generic claim. Claims 1-8, 28 and 35-37 are readable upon the elected species. The present elections are made with partial traverse and in order to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.143, such that the elected subject matter may be considered. For reasons given herein, however, reconsideration of the Restriction Requirement, and rejoinder and substantive consideration of the subject matter of Groups 1-6, are respectfully requested.